

February 12, 1974

PRESIDENT: Now, the motion before us is to suspend the rules and to take up Final Reading tomorrow today, is there any further discussion of the motion?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, Mr. President, as long as the Senators are so anxious to work, I commend him for it. I move we suspend the rules and don't read any bills on Final Reading, go to Select File and get on General File. If no bill is important, the ten that are up there are not particularly important don't do anything. I'm not trying to create a disturbance so soon. I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the motion.

PRESIDENT: Now, wait a minute Senator. You have the Chair confused. Which motion are you withdrawing, both of them? Which motion are you withdrawing? OK, very good. Senator Carpenter asking unanimous consent to withdraw both motions. Are there objections? Senator Stahmer, please don't object. Senator Stahmer, go ahead.

SENATOR STAHMER: Well, I'm going to raise the question if I might to the Chair, to the Clerk or to anyone else that might be able to answer it. To what degree is it necessary to keep to these bills on the Board a proper length of time to give proper consideration of people in outstate Nebraska so that they might have ample notification of what bills are coming up and so forth? Do we do a disservice to the people outstate who read about these bills in the newspaper, and if we speed up this process do we deprive them of the opportunity to then give correspondence back to us? I'd be happy to feel an answer from either one of you.

PRESIDENT: Is your question directed, Senator Stahmer, to the bills.

SENATOR STAHMER: No, just to the mechanics in general. I've been told or I've heard that when we shove these things up it might act as a detriment to the people outstate. If this is true or if it is a possibility I think we ought to take into consideration before we shove them up, because I don't think we gain anything by shoving them up anyway.

PRESIDENT: I suppose the Chair would just generally observe that the process of the Legislature as it has derived over the years has seemed adequate, therefore, any deviation from that, of course, does speed up the process to some degree. If you're talking about the amount of time that is allotted for instance between the time that a bill is set for hearing and then it is heard in committee and then it goes on General File, and from that process over to...

SENATOR STAHMER: How many days should it be up there so the people can see it in it's final form and be able to respond.

PRESIDENT: Alright, the Clerk will answer.

CLERK: The bills, when they come down correctly Engrossed are reprinted with all the amendments attached. They are then mailed within one day of when they are reported in correctly Engrossed. And if you leave them the two days, the odds are increased that they get distributed throughout the state. They are mailed punctually. But if you cut it short by one day there is no way for people to get a copy of it by the time.